



Sarah-Quita Offringa represents Aruba in the PWA Colgate World Cup in Sylt, Germany

Aruba's own Sarah-Quita Offringa, only fifteen years old and already ranked the Women's Freestyle Sub-Champion of the Professional Windsurfing Association is in Sylt, Germany taking a shot at the number one spot. She was considered a real contender after her upset victory over number one seed Daida Moreno in the Canary Islands at Fuerteventura, Spain in July. Sarah-Quita defeated the far more experienced thirty-year-old Moreno on her home ground but now faces some frustrations in realizing her goal during the final leg of the PWA world competitions for 2006.

Many believed that Sarah-Quita had every chance of finishing the year as the number one ranked Women's Freestyle Champion of the PWA, but for the World Cup of Windsurfing in Sylt, Germany the Freestyle competitions were eliminated. Sarah-Quita is forced to compete in the "Wave" category, which is a new discipline for her. Sarah has set the record as the youngest woman to ever win a gold medal in professional windsurfing competition, but Daida Moreno also ranks number one in the Wave discipline, and so far, wind conditions in Sylt have not even allowed them to compete. For the most part, only the Slalom heats have been held, as wave category entrants wait for the wind to pick up going into day five of the competitions that will end on October 1.

The windsurfing world is waiting to see how the little "girl with big hair" from Aruba will perform during this final PWA event for 2006, but the conditions are not cooperating, and she may never get a chance to show her stuff. Aruba is still proud of Sarah-Quita's many accomplishments and her achieving windsurfing superstar status at such a young age, while still maintaining her grades at school. This dynamic young woman has the drive, talent and spirit to carve out a career in windsurfing, which she proved when she came home with bronze and gold medals earlier this year. Her compatriots cheer her on and hope she has a chance to show them what she can do!